Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /070 W

R 311743Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECDEF WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 4576
INFO DA WASHDC
USDOC WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USMISSION USNATO
USNMR SHAPE

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SECDEF FOR ISA-EUR; CINCEUR FOR ECJE/7-SA.

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, BE

SUBJ: BELGIAN HAWK - M113 OVERALL COMPENSATION POTENTIAL

REF: SECDEF MSG DSAA 100020Z MAR 77.

- 1. MINISTER OF DEFENSE VANDEN BOEYNANTS HAS REQUESTED USG EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF USING HENSCHEL ENGINEERING AS OVERHAUL FACILITY FOR EUCOM-BASED M113'S WHEN OVERHAUL IS REQUIRED AS POSSIBLE OFFSET TO BELGIAN HAWK PURCHASE. REFTELS WHICH RESPONDED TO PREVIOUS REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF USING HENSCHEL OVERHAUL CAPABILITY FOR A QUID TO A FAVORABLE BELGIAN DECISION ON PURCHASE OF M113/AIFV WERE NOT DISCUSSED WITH GOB.
- 2. VANDEN BOEYNANTS INTENDS TO RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH SECDEF IF PROPOSED 10 FEBRUARY MEETING IS ACHIEVED. COL LEFEBVRE, ASSISTANT CHEF DE CABINET, IS AWARE THIS OFFICE DID RAISE M113 ISSUE WITH DA PREVIOUSLY BUT NOT AWARE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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DA RESPONSE.

- 3. HENSCHEL ENGINEERING IS A SUBSIDIARY OF THYSSEN RHEINSTHAL GROUP AND CURRENTLY OVERHAULS FRG M113'S.
- 4. CONCERNED THAT ANY EFFORT BY USG IN THIS ARENA AS HAWK OFFSET WOULD LESSEN MARKETABILITY OF M113/AIFV OFF-

SET PLAN, GOB HAS BEEN TESTING M113/AIFV AND AMX AND PLANS EARLY APRIL DECISION ON PURCHASE.

- 5. IN NEGOTIATION ON HAWK MOU, US TEAM AND GOB WERE IN AGREEMENT THAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR COUNTING OFFSET RESTS WITH GOB AND THAT USG WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO DOUBLE COUNT AGAINST TWO PROGRAMS. THIS REQUEST BY GOB FOR POSSIBLE HENSCHEL ENGINEERING OVERHAUL OF M113'S WOULD APPEAR TO POSE ISSUE OF WHERE OFFSET CREDIT WOULD BE APPLIED; E.G., HAWK OR POSSIBLE M113/AIFV PURCHASE.
- 6. FMC CORP/CALIFORNIA AWARE VANDEN BOEYNANTS HAS RAISED HENSCHEL OVERHAUL ISSUE AND PLANS TO EXTEND INVITATION TO VANDEN BOEYNANTS TO VISIT THEIR FACILITY DURING HIS FORTHCOMING CONUS VISIT. GDS 31 DEC 84. OLSEN

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